network, which base stations it can receive. The network compares the list of available base stations to the preference list maintained therein. If the comparison shows that the terminal would receive more advantageous service from another base station than the one it is currently communicating with, the network commands the terminal to perform a handover to the other base station. The terminal will actually never even know whether the network-initiated handover command was caused because of the occurrence of a more preferable base station on the preference list, or whether the network had some other reasons like traffic balancing considerations that caused it to issue handover commands.

Regarding the claimed features of the invention, Leih does not disclose "data specific to that terminal stored in *and received from the network*". The terminal of Leih does not receive any terminal-specific preference data from the network. It only receives a handover command every now and then.

Leih has the serious drawback of requiring each terminal to transmit a list of base station identifiers to the network each time when a change occurs in the list of base stations the terminal is able to receive. Practice shows that a vast majority of changes in the list of base stations their terminal is able to receive only involves appearance or disappearance of base stations that are completely equal to each other regarding preferences. Transmitting their identifiers to the network each time a change occurs would waste large amounts of transmission capacity with no useful results obtained at all. The network would just note that the change does not bring about anything new regarding cell preference, and nothing else would happen.

On the contrary, in the present invention the network only transmits to the terminal the terminal-specific preference information every now and then. When a change occurs in the list of base stations the terminal is able to receive, it is the terminal that makes the comparisons and calculations without the need of transmitting anything anywhere just to indicate the occurred change. Only if the terminal comes to the conclusion that a handover to a more preferable cell is needed, does it start transmitting handover requests. A vast number of unnecessary transmissions, which will obligatorily occur in Leih, are then avoided in the present invention.

Claims 1, 4 and 6 recite "data specific to that terminal stored in and received from the network". Since this is totally missing from Leih, the rejection of Claims 1-3, 4, 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. 102 on this reference should be withdrawn.

Similarly, since Wong fails to disclose this feature, the rejection of Claims 5 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103 on Leih in view of Wong should be withdrawn.

Also, since ETSI fails to show this feature, the rejection of Claims 9 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 103 on Leih, Wong, and ETSI should be withdrawn.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,

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